

MISSOURIAN

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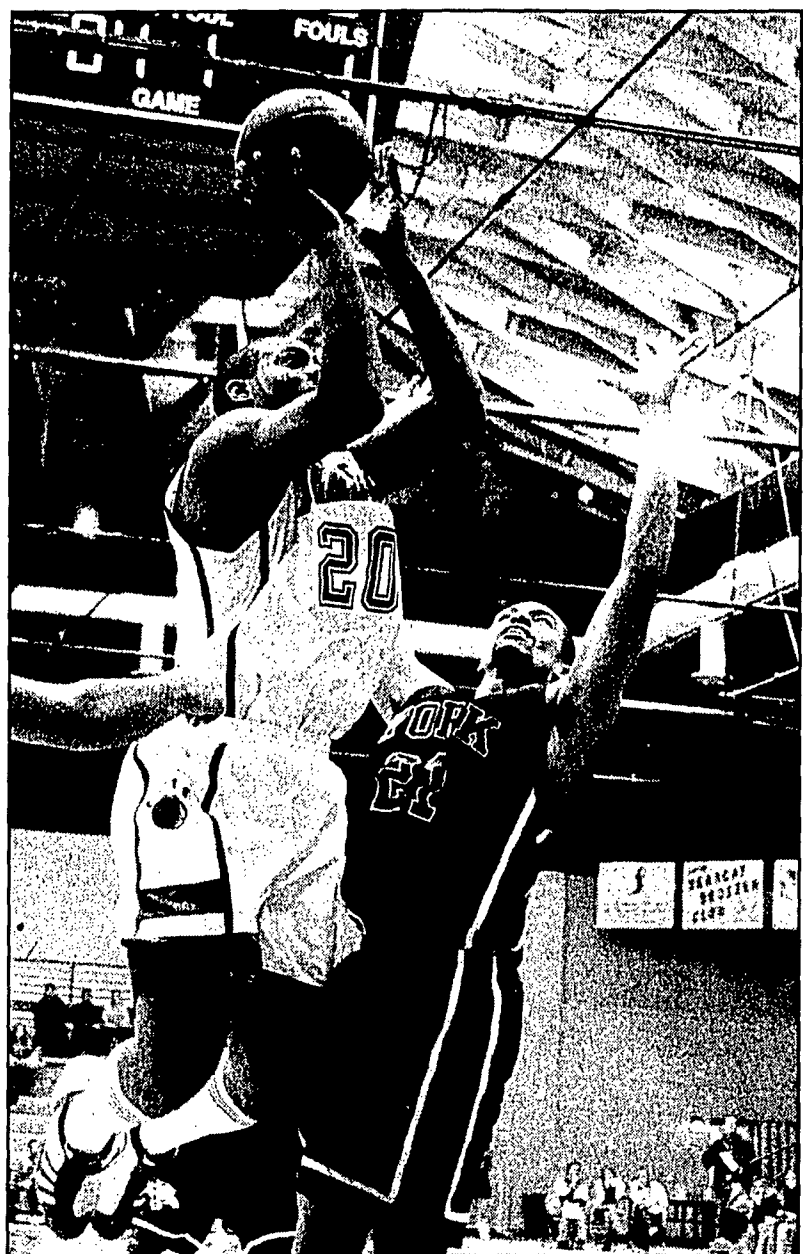


PHOTO BY BILL KNUST/ASSIGNMENT EDITOR
Senior guard Jelani Walker goes up for a shot over a York College defender Saturday night at Bearcat Arena. Walker finished the game with 14 points.

Northwest wins in big way over Panthers, Calvary

By MARK EUSTON
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

To say the 'Cats have won big in their last two games would be an understatement. The 'Cats have not only won big, but have blown out their opponents, beating Calvary Bible College 108-29 and York College 90-56.

"Hopefully playing teams like these will give confidence to a few guys," head coach Steve Tappmeyer said. "For example, tonight, (forward) Brian Carson really benefited from getting out and getting minutes in the game like this."

The two blowout wins almost served as an exhibition game for the team, with every player getting at least 10 minutes of playing time.

"They (the games) give us an opportunity to work on a few things," Tappmeyer said. "Such as a zone that we wanted to work on, we were able to put it in, if it is a five or six-point game, you can't say, 'hey, let's experiment a little bit.'"

After the Peru State game, Tappmeyer said he felt the team needed better execution, something they had not been doing in games past.

"Our execution was better tonight," Tappmeyer said. "We played out of our sets and had a lot better sharpness."

In Saturday's game against York College, Northwest turned the ball over only 12 times while forcing 19 turnovers and allowing York to shoot only 36 percent from the field.

"We did a good job of controlling the things that we can control like turnovers and defensive play," guard Kelvin Parker said. "You can't control shooting every night, but I think it is a good step in the right direction for us as a team."

Carson, who came off the bench, led the team in scoring with 16 on the night.

"He would be a nice luxury for us (going down the stretch)," Tappmeyer said. "We are so thin on our front line and he gives us some size and some rebounding and he would really be a plus."

The 'Cats opened the night with a 20-point lead and the game looked like it would be over quickly.

"We jumped out early to a big lead but one of the things that coach said to us was 'don't scoreboard watch, just play like it is tied up the whole game,'" guard Jelani Walker said.

Walker brought the fans to their feet twice on the night, first finishing a breakaway with a monstrous dunk, then catching an ally-oop, successfully

Please see CATS page 4A

Former Bearcat to offer advice to new graduates

By SARAH SWEDBERG
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Northwest graduates have spent hours of hard work and dedication to receive their degrees, and now they will take their education and experiences with them as they receive their degrees Friday.

But before they leave campus, more than 300 undergraduates will be inspired by the words of Garrison Kellor, host of Writer's Alumnac Radio Show. Commencement speaker Danny Marsh often listens to Kellor on KXCV.

Marsh will use Kellor's words as the theme of his speech to advise this year's graduates to "be well, do good work and keep in touch" before they enter the working world.

"I will be giving my version on what it takes to do these three things based off my experience," Marsh said.

"I hope I can say something that will open someone's eyes and give them encouragement."

Marsh graduated from Northwest in December 1976 with a bachelor's of science degree in accounting. However, Marsh did not attend the May commencement ceremony 26 years ago because he took a job at an accounting firm in Kansas City, Mo.

This fall's commencement will be his first at Northwest.

Tom Vansaghi, vice president of University relations, said Marsh was chosen to be the commencement speaker because he had served on the Board of Regents for a number of years.

"The commencement speaker was chosen because he is one of our most outstanding alumni," Vansaghi said. Marsh said he is honored to be

speaking at the ceremony and he is looking forward to the challenge.

Marsh started his own accounting firm in 1988 and since then has been a partner in Marsh, Espey & Riggs P.C., CPAs firm in Albany and Maryville.

Marsh has continued to be a loyal Bearcat by serving in numerous capacities. He is a former member of the Board of Regents and was president of the Board of Regents from 1993 to 1999.

"My diploma opened the door for me," he said. "The education let me walk on in and start being productive."

The commencement ceremony will take place at 7 p.m. Friday at Bearcat Arena, with doors opening at 6 p.m.

Sarah Swedberg can be contacted at 562-1224 or sswedberg@missourianonline.com

CMSU faculty petition for union

By KARA SWINK
UNIVERSITY NEWS EDITOR

For more than a year, Northwest's administration has kept faculty and staff updated on the budget crisis, but one sister institution cannot say the same.

Due to a lack in communication, more than 75 faculty members at Central Missouri State University are petitioning to form a union to get their voice heard.

Although CMSU faculty has the right to hand out petition cards, they may not have the right to form a union because a state law could stand in the way.

The law states university employees can organize to make their views heard, but administrators do not have to listen because Missouri prohibits teachers, police and those in the National Guard from forming a labor organization which could result in collective bargaining.

Within the state of Missouri, no four-year university has a faculty union, but in Kansas, no law stands in the way. Pittsburg State University and Fort Hays State University are the only four-year universities with unions.

If the union forms, it would be called the Fellowship of Missouri Education Workers. Bill Vaughn, assistant professor of English at CMSU, is the leader of the petition drive. As of Dec. 6, Vaughn said more than 75 signed cards had been collected.

Vaughn said forming the union is a two-step process. First, those involved want to collect 100 signatures out of 435 faculty members, which would show enough interest to seek other unions throughout the nation.

The second phase would include an election where more than 50 percent of faculty member votes would be needed.

"What we're doing is for education and institutions for the entire state," Vaughn said. "It seems like discussions (from administration) are just being made one-sided. We want people (faculty) to be able to govern themselves, because right now they aren't being able to."

Unlike Northwest who set up reserve funds 15 years ago in case of a state crisis, CMSU has struggled with its \$10.5 million budget decrease. Due to the decline in state income, they also were forced to cut 26 degree programs and issued about 40 pink slips to faculty and staff members.

"You can't build up reserves overnight," Northwest President Dean Hubbard said. "Of course we are not in the business of just trying to build up reserves, but to cushion ourselves as well. Of course these are the types of situations that don't lend themselves to quickly fix."

Hubbard is not opposed to a union formed at CMSU because at times they can be beneficial, he said.

"Without the labor movement at certain times in history we would not be where we are today as a society," he said. "I think the best of all the worlds is a type of balance."

Hubbard said Northwest faculty has been tremendous through the budget crisis, especially through communication.

"I've been so proud how people have responded, been understanding and been pulling together," he said. "I couldn't have asked for it any better."

Gregory Haddock, Faculty Senate president, said Northwest morale is higher than at CMSU, because CMSU employees are ready for the worst.

"Although money is tight up here (Northwest) and with all the things going on, there is still a sense of trust between the administration and faculty," Haddock said. "I think the faculty thinks the administration has the best interest of education at heart in their decision."

Haddock said if Northwest faculty tried to start a union, there probably would not be enough momentum because of the University's morale.

"I support whatever they want to do on their campus," he said. "I don't think any ill of them and I hope they are successful at gaining any voice of advocacy they've lost. I wish them the best."

Maryville woman benefits from unique heart operation

By SARAH DITTMANN
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Helen Widger had always thought she felt fine. But now that she has had open heart surgery, she feels as healthy as a, um, pig.

"I'm not as tired as I was," Widger said, now that her previously ailing heart has been healed using part of a pig's heart. "I mean, I thought I felt fine before. And I've had arthritis since I was 27, and I blame everything on arthritis if I have a pain or a hurt or anything."

Having been diagnosed with a heart murmur as a child but never treated for it, Widger thought it was just a part of life.

"I've had a heart murmur for years and every doctor would just pass it by (saying) 'Well, you have a heart murmur,'" she said.

When she began seeing a new physician for her arthritis, things changed. Her new doctor was surprised to hear that none of her previous doctors had recommended repairing the murmur.

"And he said, 'I'm going to do something about it,'" Widger said.

Her physician had her make an appointment to see a cardiologist. She then had to go in to have an echocardiogram, a procedure much like the ultrasound women have when they are pregnant. A device records vibrations from the heart and translates them into an image on a screen so that a cardiologist can determine a prognosis.

Through the echocardiogram, it was discovered that Widger had a heart murmur severe enough to require surgery. A heart murmur is a term used to describe a malfunction

in one of the valves in the heart. The valves open to allow one heart chamber to push blood into another heart chamber. The valves close to prevent blood from leaking back into the first chamber. When a valve does not close completely, it produces a whooshing sound that is recognizable to a doctor when he or she listens to a person's heart with a stethoscope. The result is that the heart has to work harder to pump the same amount of blood as a normal heart.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE AHRENS/MISSOURIAN PHOTOGRAPHER
Maryville resident Helen Widger recounts her experience of heart valve transplant surgery. Widger has had a heart murmur since she was younger and arthritis which hit her at age 27.

One common solution to a heart murmur is to replace the leaky valve. There are two options in replacing the heart valve: a mechanical valve, which is made from metal and pyrolytic carbon, or a biological valve, made from animal tissues. Mechanical valves usually last longer, but blood tends to clot on them. Biological valves, which are commonly made from pig tissue, as in Widger's case, do not have the durability of mechanical valves, but because of the lessened risk for blood clots, there is also a lower risk of valve dysfunction or stroke. Biological

valves do not usually wear out in people over the age of 70, so it seemed like the best choice for Widger.

Having had many surgeries before, Widger was not nervous about the open heart surgery.

"I just thought I'd have the surgery and that would be the end of it," she said. "If I didn't come back out, why, that was it."

Widger went into surgery on May 21 and remained in the hospital for nine days. She then went to stay with her daughter in Overland Park, Kan. to recuperate.

However, Widger's troubles were not over quite yet.

When she went back in for a checkup, it was discovered that fluid had built up around her heart, causing it to fibrillate or quiver, which results in a loss of pulse.

Widger had two choices: doctors

Please see HEART page 3A

All I want for Christmas



PHOTO BY ABBY SIMONS/COMMUNITY NEWS EDITOR
Hailey Beemer, 4, shares her Christmas wishes of a stroller and baby doll with Santa Claus. Many local children visited Santa Saturday at his house on the courthouse lawn.

Alternative holiday gifts benefit needy families

By MARLISA CARRILLO
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Choosing a holiday gift sometimes requires more than the usual amount of searching. Hours upon hours can be spent scouring malls and department stores to find the perfect present for those with specific wishes.

One way to break the mold in traditional gift giving is to explore alternatives. Non-profit organizations from all over the nation offer ways to give more than just a green fuzzy sweater or a set of coffee mugs decorated with snowflakes. One different gift to consider includes a heifer cow.

Heifer Project International provides opportunities to give needy communities and families in developing countries a gift that multiplies. A single cow can produce milk for an entire family and its offspring can be sold to others in the community. The

project works by the gift giver donating the animal in the name of the gift receiver.

The First Christian Church of Maryville recently played host to an Alternative Christmas Fair which showcases the Heifer Project and three other non-profit organizations as opportunities to give unique gifts.

Co-Pastor Lee Yates said this season is the first time the church has played host to the fair.

"It is set up as a small market with different tables for different vendors," Yates said.

SERRV (formerly Sales Exchange Refugee Rehabilitation and Vocation) International is an organization providing crafts such as pottery and woodwork created by artisans in third world countries. All proceeds benefit the artisans who fashioned the handiwork. SERRV, created in 1949 by

Church of Brethren benefits craftsmakers in more than 30 countries. So far the congregation has sold more than half of the SERRV crafts.

Another association featured at the fair is the National Benevolent Association. The NBA offers Christmas card sets with children's artwork that can be ordered with personalized envelopes. The proceeds benefit the children, elderly and those in need who are served by the NBA.

The fourth group represented is a group of silver jewelry makers from Ojocalientes, Mexico. The money collected from selling the authentic silver jewelry goes toward developing a ministry/nutrition center in the rural town.

Lenore Bellamy, who works in the modern languages department at Northwest, helped with this section

Please see NEEDY FAMILIES page 3A

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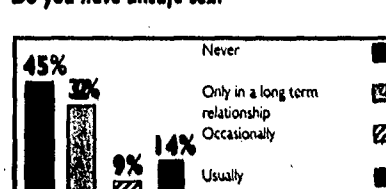
Happy Holidays from
The Northwest Missourian!
Look for our next issue Jan. 16.
Have a good break!

This week Julian Kussman answers students' questions about dating, Astroglide and abortion. Send your questions to Ask Julian.

The **BUZZ**
Your Online Entertainment Section
On Friday, check out a review of the new romantic comedy "Maid in Manhattan."



Last week's poll:
Do you have unsafe sex?



This week's poll:
What's your favorite Christmas activity?

Holocaust survivor shares experiences

By MARLISA CARRILLO
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Hundreds of eyes gazed toward the podium as a white-haired man spoke passionately about his life. His calm steady voice told tales of a life unlike the ones his audience had experienced.

Needless starvation, torture and death surrounded him for three of the most impressionable years of his youth. This was his story.

Holocaust Survivor Jack Mandelbaum unraveled historical threads some had never heard. Up until the age of 12, he lived a normal life. Then Nazis detained Mandelbaum, a Polish Jew, and his family, and he spent two years in hard labor, and one year in seven different concentration camps. He told the audience what it was like to survive. Today he gives speeches to promote awareness.

"The main goal is to educate the people about what really transpired from a person who was really there," he said.

Mandelbaum said he was glad to be invited because it is a learning process for the audience.

"For me it is the satisfaction that I can speak for those that cannot speak anymore—those that didn't survive," he said.

The Conference Center was filled to capacity Dec. 5 as hundreds came to listen to his story. Joe Friedman, a liberator of Ohrdruf concentration camp, also spoke about his respective experience.

Friedman was a member of the American troops who liberated the first concentration camp in April 1945. Friedman, a St. Joseph resident, described the wartime situations of the draft and being sent overseas. Friedman said his experiences in liberating the camp made a profound impact on his life.

After Mandelbaum and Friedman finished giving their stories, the forum was open to those in attendance to ask questions.

The department of mass communications and students in Roy Schwartzman's Propaganda class sponsored the event. Students organized the program by obtaining a \$1,000 grant from Common Ground, a campus organization that raises awareness about discrimination.

"We're just happy that through this we can go out and inform the community of what really happened," said Propaganda Student Dallas Archer.

Marlisa Carrillo can be contacted at 562-1224 or mcarrillo@missourianonline.com

Potterrific



The Art Club pottery sale took place Friday and Saturday in the basement of the Deluce Fine Arts Building. People lined up and toured the three rooms open for displaying pottery made by Northwest students.

Holiday charity serves families in need

By JESSICA TASLER
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

The holiday season will be a little brighter for families across Nodaway County thanks to a program that emphasizes the meaning of the holidays.

The Adopt-a-Family program, sponsored by Community Services, encourages businesses, schools, churches, families and organizations to donate to families in need during the holiday season. Nodaway County has been helping

needy families through the Adopt-a-Family program for several years, helping an average of 250 families each year.

Low-income families within the county who need help fill out a form at the Community Services Office, listing needed items. Businesses, families, organizations and others wishing to donate receive the family's list after contacting Community Services.

Items are purchased or gathered, dropped off at the Community Services

Office and delivered to families. Families who receive donations through the program are kept anonymous. Items collected include toys, clothes, food, blankets and gift cards. Adopt-a-Family Coordinator Kim Heriford said the program is making Christmas possible for some children. "It is not fair that children are deprived from Christmas because their parents do not make enough money," Heriford said. "That is why we do this; we do it for the kids."

Rural antique mall provides alternatives to shoppers

By STEPHANIE SUCKOW
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Malls around the country are packed with busy shoppers looking for the newest gadgets and toys to give their loved ones. Although the 5 Mile Antique Corner Mall in Maryville is no exception to the busy atmosphere, they are an exception when it comes to the items for sale.

Twenty-four booths fill the floor of the mall with antique items such as furniture, tools, glassware, jewelry, toys and ornaments for Christmas.

Store Owner Twilla Hager and

her son, Gailen, have owned the store for 14 years, building on and making changes as time has passed.

One thing that has not changed is the store's namesake, which has survived since day one.

"The name has remained the same because it holds meaning," Hager said. "The 5 Mile comes from the fact that we are exactly five miles from the courthouse door along Highway 71."

This highway location plays an important role in the amount of customers they receive on a daily basis.

"People stop by going through," she said. "One day we may have dozens and the next day we'll have 50."

Although the store may see up to 50 customers daily, that doesn't mean everyone will buy something, as many enjoy browsing.

"You've got to have lookers before you have buyers," Hager said.

The browsers of this Christmas season will include those who will, if only for one day, avoid the city's busy shopping centers to check out what the past has to offer at the 5 Mile Antique Corner Mall.

Stephanie Suckow can be contacted at 562-1224 or ssuckow@missourianonline.com

Departing senior bids goodbye

By DEVIN RANKIN
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

A zest for the unknown and an urge to travel will lead one graduating senior on a lifelong adventure.

Born and raised in Greenville, Texas, 30 miles outside of Dallas, Wendy Evans geography and geographic information systems major, arrived to the northern tip of Missouri to unpredictable weather where a worthwhile experience awaited.

For Evans, a transfer student from Texas A & M, the switch from one of the country's largest schools to one of less than 7,000 students proved to be a culture shock.

For the last two years, Evans has been working toward her goal to complete her geography degree.

Leaving her family more than 600 miles behind and venturing off on her own to an unknown world, Northwest faculty and staff has made campus home for Evans, through faculty relationships and hands-on experience.

"The thing that I love about Northwest is that I know my professors and they know me," Evans said. "They know my name inside and outside of the classroom which was different from Texas A & M."

While attending school in Texas, Evans learned through a professor about Northwest's geography department. Through research, Evans learned Northwest's department was ranked nationally high among other universities throughout the country.

It was her hunger for travel and love for different cultures, which gave Evans the curiosity to explore the world of geography.

"Different people and cultures that are opposite of what I experienced growing up fascinate me," said Evans. "It gives me another perspective on life."

After graduation, Evans would like to work in the Kansas City, Mo. area using her degree. It is also Evans' dream to someday pursue a career with the government in criminal analysis for the FBI.

Devin Rankin can be contacted at 562-1224 or drankin@missourianonline.com



Stocked with an array of both year-round and holiday items, the 5 Mile Antique Corner Mall serves shoppers yearning for a break from the mall scene.

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NEEDY FAMILIES from 1A

Christmas fair offers unique gifts

of the fair. Bellamy said Ojocalientes and the areas around it are poverty stricken.

"A lot of the neighborhoods the people are so poor they don't have running water," Bellamy said.

The nutrition centers would include showers to benefit these people.

The unique jewelry, however, has sold out and they are currently awaiting more.

"We're hoping to get another shipment of jewelry before Christmas," Bellamy said.

The church heard about the fair idea from churches that participate in such fairs annually across the country. Yates said it took about a month to prepare and set up the fair.

"One of the biggest things is to raise awareness," Yates said.

The third world countries effected span the globe.

"This allows resources to get where the greatest needs are," Yates said.

The final section of the fair was Sunday.

Although the effects of the unusual gifts may not be directly seen by the gift-giver, the rewards reach beyond one man on a street corner, they may make an entire community's holiday wishes come true.

Marissa Carillo can be contacted at 562-1224 or mcarillo@missourianonline.com

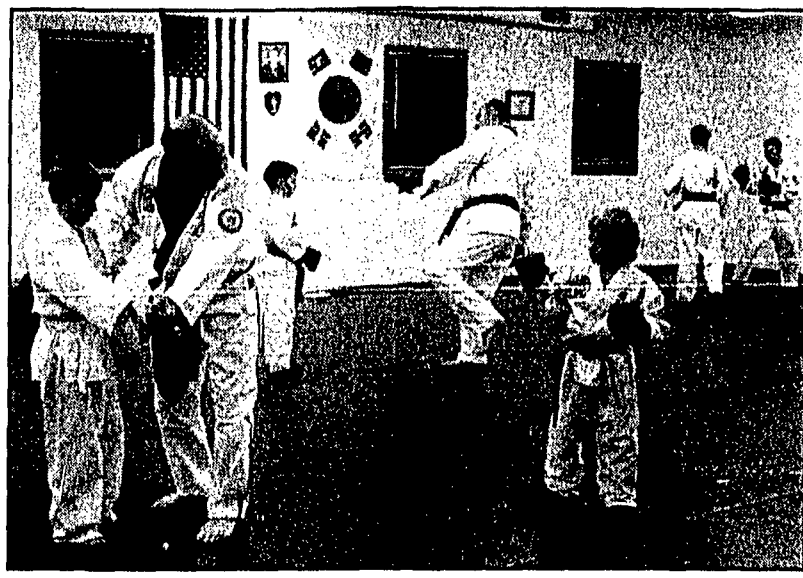
HEART from 1A

Open heart surgery, animal tissue helps local woman lead healthier life

could insert a pacemaker, or they could try defibrillation, or shocking her with paddles.

She decided to try the noninvasive defibrillation first, shortly after the surgery, but the thought made her nervous.

"The only time I've ever seen or knew anything about shock was on TV where



David Duvall instructs Tyler Young and Stetson McBride on their technique in their Tuesday hap ki do class. These one-hour classes are held Tuesday and Thursday.

Sigma Society to sponsor annual bridal show

By JILL MUEGGE
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Extravagant white dresses, bridal vendors and women galore will fill the Mary Linn Auditorium during the third annual Sigma Society Bridal Show.

The show themed Going to the Chapel will take place Jan. 26 and serves as a fundraiser for the Sigma Society, a service organization for women.

"I like this fundraiser because it is very realistic," said Betsy Burgess, bridal show chair. "Many girls our age are getting married, or are thinking about marriage or know someone who

is getting married."

JoAnn Marich, faculty sponsor since 1970, said the show is great because the women enjoy themselves and it gives them a chance to do service to the community and University.

The show will run from noon to 6 p.m. Booths from 23 vendors ranging from cake decorators, music and everything needed for a wedding will be displayed. At 2 p.m., members of Sigma Society will model various wedding dresses from shops in St. Joseph and Savannah. In previous years, the show has brought in more than 150 spectators, in-

Fitness center offers karate

By SHANNON POLASKI
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

With the start of a new year, many are kicking off the season by joining a martial arts program.

David Duvall is the instructor of hap ki do at his Martial Arts and Fitness Center located at 404 S. Main. He opened the local center 24 years ago at his instructor's suggestion and has been teaching there ever since.

"Hap ki do is different than karate because this is more of a self-defense type of art," Duvall said. "We use more circular movements to divert the attack and then gain control of the situation."

Duvall said that hap ki do is good for three main reasons. First is the

physical level, where people gain muscle, strength and endurance. Next is the mental level, where self-confidence and the ability to focus is gained. There is also a higher tolerance level of pain gained from using hap ki do. The last level is a spiritual level. Duvall said he believes this is one of the most important levels.

"You can be the most physically fit person in the world and make it nowhere in life without your spiritual-ity," Duvall said.

Hap ki do teaches self-discipline. The levels of hap ki do vary in depth. The group meets every Thursday.

Anyone can start this program, from ages 7 and up. Members need not be physically fit to start and all

levels are welcome.

"This is a competition mainly against yourself," Duvall said. "You can watch and see how you are improving."

Duvall advises people to bring a friend and come watch a session for the first time and then try it out for free the next.

Hap ki do is not for everyone and Duvall said one should check it out before making a huge commitment.

A fitness center and a massage therapist are also included at Duvall's Martial Arts and Fitness Center. Call 582-5611 for more information.

Shannon Polaski can be contacted at 562-1224 or spolaski@missourianonline.com

Alumni Association offers Hawaiian island cruise

By DEVIN RANKIN
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Palm trees and sandy beaches will be awaiting the Tourin' Bearcats as they depart for a 10-day cruise around the tropical paradise of the Hawaiian islands Feb. 21.

The Tourin' Bearcats consist of Northwest alumni and friends who traditionally take tours abroad for enjoyment and for rest and relaxation, said Mike Johnson, director of alumni relations.

The tours are not only for Northwest alumni, but for anyone interested in going, said Lynn Ruhl, executive of advancement assistant.

"This is a wonderful opportunity at a great price," she said. "It is a neat experience that is a chance for anyone to go with a great group from Northwest. We all get to visit and reminisce on past experiences."

The Tourin' Bearcats, who are sponsored by the Alumni Association, take a trip once a year to a different

destination and have recently expanded the opportunity to take part in the trip twice a year, Johnson said. Along with the Hawaiian cruise in February, the group will visit Paris, for the City of Lights tour in July.

The cruise which has been planned since June, originally was scheduled for seven days, but has now been changed to a 10-day cruise for the price of \$1,799 that includes air fare, price of the cruise and taxes.

While visiting Hawaii, travelers will stop at six different islands to enjoy the fine dining, shops and sites, said Max Ruhl, dean of the College of Education and Human Services.

The islands that will be toured include Honolulu, Kona, Fanning Island, Hilo, Maui and Naviliwili.

Room is still available for anyone interested in the Hawaiian cruise. For information on traveling with the Tourin' Bearcats in February and with other trips, contact Ruhl at 562-1248 or lruhl@mail.nwmissouri.edu

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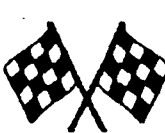
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YOGA FOR CANCER PATIENTS IN REMISSION; 9:15-10:15AM

YOGA FOR CANCER PATIENTS STAGE III & IV, 10:40-11:40AM

YOGA FOR LUNCH, 12-1:00PM

YOGA FOR POST HEART SURGERY, 1:20-2:20PM

YOGA FOR CANCER PATIENTS STAGE I & II, 2:40-3:40PM

YOGA FOR PREGNANCY, 4:10-5:10PM AND 5:40-6:40 PM

YOGA FOR STIFFNESS & ACHES, 7:15-8:25PM



PLAYERS OF THE WEEK



Jenna Wolfe

The junior scored 17 points and pulled down nine rebounds in the women's basketball team's win over York College Saturday.

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Akins has averaged more than 20 points a game in the boys' basketball team's first two wins of the season over Mt. Ayr and South Harrison.



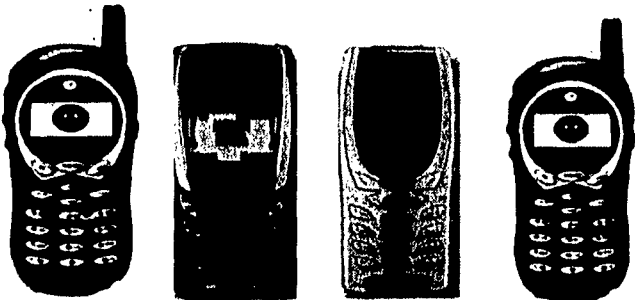
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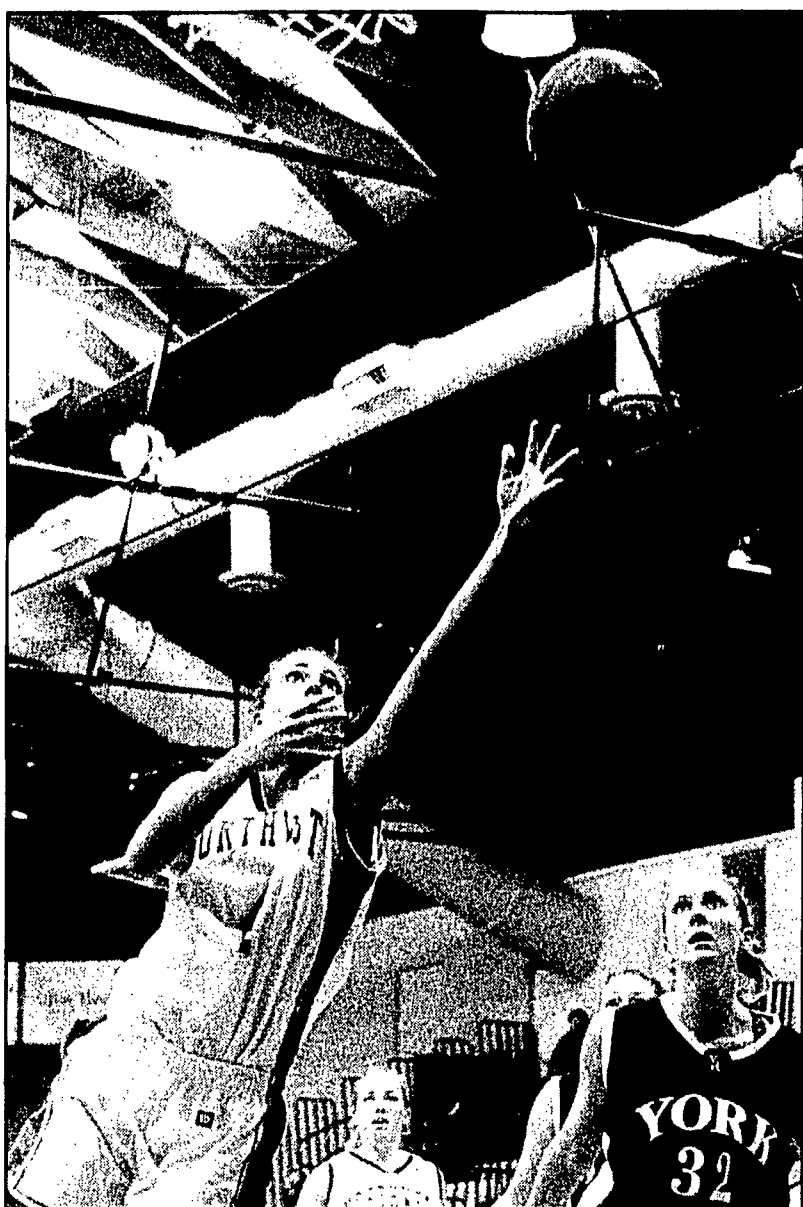


PHOTO BY BILL KNUST/ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

Junior center Jenna Wolfe lays in a shot in the first half in the 'Cats' 87-36 win over the Panthers Saturday at Bearcat Arena. Wolfe was one rebound shy of a double-double, pulling down nine boards and scoring 17 points. She is second on the team in scoring, averaging 12 points per game.

Northwest women's basketball

'Cats blowout York College

By PETE GUTSCHENRITTER
CHIEF REPORTER

Last week could have been called Blowout Week as the women's basketball team beat York College 87-36 just two days after the men's team beat Calvary Bible College 109-28.

The women's team captured the victory after a 76-67 defeat at the hands of the University of Nebraska-Omaha Wednesday night in Omaha.

Head coach Gene Steinmeyer said the UNO game was a challenge for the team.

"The UNO game was a contrast of two things," Steinmeyer said. "Our pressure defense was really paying dividends because we had 35 turnovers but the last part of defense is rebounding and we got outrebounded by 26."

The 'Cats, who improved to 3-2, continued the defensive pressure as they forced 36 turnovers and outrebounded the Panthers 48-34. The 'Cats shot 47 percent from the field and 27 percent from three-point range in Saturday night's game.

The 'Cats trailed 7-6 early in the game before they went on a 17-0 run to make it a 23-7 lead. The team never looked back from there as they went up 45-14 going into halftime. The 'Cats also had a 17-2 run in the second half, as many reserves had the opportunity to play.

Sophomore Emily Elkin played 10 minutes in the game and scored seven points. Five of those points came in the last 41 seconds of the game.

Steinmeyer said many reserves

played well throughout the game.

"I thought (freshman Megan) Morrow did a really good job off the bench," Steinmeyer said. "One of the important things today was we got (junior) Sarah (Vollertsen) back on the court. I thought (junior Corey) Van Dine did a nice job at point guard tonight. (Sophomore Ashley) Poptanycz is a natural rebounder and shooter and tonight she really displayed that."

Morrow scored 11 points, Poptanycz added 10 points and Van Dine contributed with seven assists.

Vollertsen returned to action after suffering broken bones in both feet. Vollertsen saw 19 minutes of playing time and scored eight points while pulling down 10 rebounds.

Junior Jenna Wolfe led all scorers with 17 points and she pulled down nine rebounds.

Wolfe said the whole team contributed in the victory and she said Vollertsen's presence helped her have a



PHOTO BY BILL KNUST/ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

Freshman guard Laura Friederich runs into a York defender, however, it was one of few times the Panthers were able to frustrate the 'Cats defensively.

good game.

"Almost everyone scored and everyone is shooting real well and we're real comfortable right now," Wolfe said. "With having Sarah back, I think they (York College) looked to collapse on her inside so it gave the outside people more shots."

The 'Cats will play host to Rockhurst University Saturday before going to Honolulu for the Hoops-n-Surf Tournament. The 'Cats will face the

University of Central Arkansas, the No. 9 team in the country, Dec. 19 in Northwest's opening game of the tournament. The 'Cats will then play California State University-Los Angeles Dec. 20.

Steinmeyer said the team has to improve before conference play, which begins Dec. 30, when the 'Cats play Missouri Western State College.

"Obviously the big goal is rebounding," Steinmeyer said. "We have to go from a bad rebounding team to a good rebounding team in a hurry and with Sarah around, that will help."

CATS from 1A

Hoopsters ease through York, turn attention to Las Vegas

putting the exclamation point on the game. He also finished the game with a double-double, scoring 14 points and grabbing 10 rebounds.

"Coach said that we needed to come out and turn our weaknesses into strengths," Walker said. "For me that was rebounding, I tried to come out and get as many boards as I could."

Despite the team's two blowout wins, preseason All-American guard Scott Fleming feels that there is still room for improvement.

"There is a ton of room for improvement," Fleming said. "We are nowhere close to where we can be with the potential that we have. We all know that we have to come out and get better in practice every day."

The team will head to Las Vegas this weekend where they will face Rollins (Fla.) and Drury, then the team will start conference play.

"We are getting close to conference now, and it is time to step it up," Carson said. "We have to know what time it is."

Mark Euston can be contacted at 562-1224 or meuston@missourianonline.com

Sports in brief

Division II playoffs likely to add eight teams in 2004

The Division II playoff field, which consists of a field of 16 teams, is likely to expand by 2004.

A proposal to expand the playoffs to 24 teams was approved by the Division II Presidents' Council before this year's playoffs began.

The proposal will now go before

the Division II membership at its annual convention in January.

If the proposal is approved, each region will submit six teams into the playoffs, unlike its usual four that it does now.

The top two teams in each region will get a bye in the first round.

The proposal states nothing about changing team's schedules.

Each team is still likely to play 11 regular-season games.

Coming Up	
Dec. 13	Northwest indoor track and field - At Iowa State Cyclone Holiday Classic Maryville boys' basketball - At LeBlond, 8 p.m.
Dec. 14	Northwest men's basketball - Rollins (Fla.), (High Desert Classic, Las Vegas) Northwest women's basketball - Rockhurst, 7:30 p.m. Maryville wrestling - At Lexington Tourn., 10 a.m.
Dec. 15	Northwest men's basketball - Drury (Mo.) (High Desert Classic, Las Vegas)
Dec. 16 - 19	Maryville girls' and boys' basketball - Nodaway County Tourn., TBA
Dec. 18	Northwest women's basketball - California State-Los Angeles (Hoops-n-Surf Tournament, Honolulu)
Dec. 19	Northwest women's basketball - Central Arkansas (Hoops-n-Surf Tournament, Honolulu)
Dec. 21	Maryville wrestling - At Trenton Tourn., 11 a.m.
Dec. 26 - 30	Maryville girls' basketball - At LeBlond Tourn., TBA Maryville boys' basketball - At William Jewell Tourn., TBA
Dec. 28	Northwest men's basketball - Dream Builders, 7 p.m.
Dec. 30	Northwest men's basketball - Missouri Western, 7:30 p.m. Northwest women's basketball - Missouri Western, 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 4	Northwest men's basketball - At Pittsburg State, 7:30 p.m. Northwest women's basketball - At Pittsburg State, 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 6	Maryville boys' basketball - At Clarinda, 8 p.m.
Jan. 7	Maryville wrestling - At Benton, 6:30 p.m. Maryville girls' basketball - Nebraska City, 6:30 p.m.
Jan. 8	Northwest men's basketball - At Truman State, 7:30 p.m. Northwest women's basketball - At Truman State, 5:30 p.m.

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Stroller reflects on trimester

As another semester comes to a close, it's time for Your Man to quietly hand the reigns of this weekly column to someone else. I took some time away from my studying, emptied the rest of the 12 pack I had in the fridge and decided to reflect and write.

My run has been somewhat of an interesting one. The force of "gun decorated" Campus Safety officers continued to show their dedication to service and protection by keeping us safe from the comfort of their patrol cars. Classrooms filled with educationally uninterested students crippled Northwest's ability to truly allow people to learn. Greek organizations were outraged that someone would challenge their mission. They wrote me letters about "service projects this" and "service projects that" all while missing the purpose of my column, group introspection.

I addressed the city of Maryville and their revitalization plans. But the Aloha Café is still standing and there's no word on any push to bring in new businesses or fill the void left by others. That snottosed freshman snagged my column from me for a week. I still get letters about that one.

One article that never graced your eyes was about the professional medical staff at St. Francis Hospital's Emergency Room. According to editors at *The Mis-*



THE STROLLER

ssourian, they would have been dragged into court facing libel charges on the grounds my column defamed the hospital. In a year of budget cuts and against an entourage of high paid lawyers, it was probably best *The Missourian* didn't run the story. But after going back and looking at my writing, I think you would've liked it.

I hit the campus radio station with enough verbal artillery to make the Gulf War look like a daytrip in the desert. But while progress was heard, sadly, the executive staff at KZLX sounded like a broken record, more worried about their graduation than the quality of broadcasting they were supposed to be managing and the legacy they'd leave behind.

I'm still scrubbing the mud off myself from what could have been Missouri's dirtiest political campaign trail. Local

and state candidates smelled like they'd been swimming in a hog confinement farm; tacky ads, misinformation, blurring of truth were all packaged inside a firm handshake and a bright white smile.

I won't be taking any online classes next trimester. Not when I barley have enough money to buy toilet paper, yet am still expected to shell out hundreds of dollars for an inferior learning environment, limited human interaction and a quality of education that can't rival a real classroom.

Like many college students, there have been few signs of air traffic on the relationship radar. Chances have been hard to come by and the second one is usually harder to find. But as time passes me by, I think the odds are getting higher that all of this is kind of just a dream of mine. Guess I should follow my own advice and trust that things come full circle. You'll get yours and I'll get mine someday.

Well, this is the part where I tell you I'll miss you and that my time here filling weekly white space has been a blast. While it's been a rollercoaster in and out of this column, I'll take it.

Enjoy the new year Northwest, I'll probably see you around.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian. The Stroller can be contacted at stroller@missourianonline.com

Girls & Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



Letter to the Editor

Former Missourian writer questions columnist about sources

My letter is in response to Jed Murr's column regarding President George W. Bush's appointment of Henry Kissinger to chair the commission to investigate our government's failure to anticipate the Sept. 11 atrocities and how to prevent them in the future.

While reading his column, laden with historical and name references, I became convinced that I was reading something not from a college student but something more appropriate from Gore Vidal, Noam Chomsky or even Barbara

Streisand.

While Mr. Murr was very effective in expressing his distaste at the appointment of Mr. Kissinger, the barrage of criticism that he heaved at him leaves one to think - can Mr. Kissinger do anything right? It is very easy to sit back and look at events without considering their historical context and it appears that Mr. Murr has accomplished exactly that.

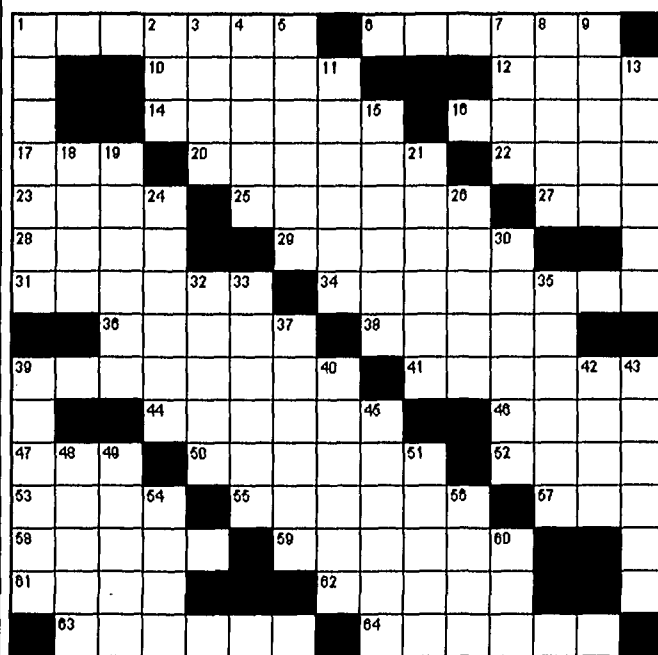
More appropriately, in the light of all of Mr. Kissinger's "sins," will Mr. Murr please disclose what source he

was able to get all of these "facts" from? Was it the Sierra Club, the Nation, the New Republic or Michael Moore's Web site?

In the future, I hope that you would bring down your tone of expression. You do not have to be the most shrill or loudest to get your point across. That was something I learned when I was at Northwest, wrote for *The Missourian* and sat where you are sitting now.

HAWKEYE WILSON
WASHINGTON, D.C. RESIDENT

Weekly Crossword



Across

1. Detectives
6. Force
10. Trojan king
12. Cut short
14. Kinda (4,2)
16. Liaison
17. Injection
20. Fought
22. Minute opening
23. Cough to express doubt
25. Matriculation
27. Tiny, high-pitched sound
28. Approach
29. Word of honor

Down

31. Japanese island
34. Jesus of Nazareth
36. Dixie
38. Land
39. Armor for the neck
41. Dodges
44. Lug
46. And elsewhere (2,3)
47. A universal ideal
50. Rope with a noose
52. Cereal grass
53. Exasperates
55. Gained

Across

57. Land east of Eden
58. Despicable
59. Discourages
61. Brazilian Indian people
62. Collection of skits
63. Amusing TV serial
64. Argue

Down

1. Take an airliner by force
2. Increases
3. Think (Archaic)
4. Biblical king of

Tyre

5. Governor
7. Canadian law-enforcers
8. Dress
9. You are
11. Masonry bonding agent
13. Antebellum
15. Grub
18. Shouted to attract attention
19. Discombobulate
21. Semiconductors
24. Elementary particles
26. Ecclesiastic
30. Spookier
32. Cage
33. From Utah
35. Swallow
37. With mountainous topography
39. Painter
40. Missive
42. Mexican dish
43. Maul
45. Caressed
48. Dense cloud
49. Giraffe-like mammal
51. Pass a rope through a block (Naut)
54. Cut
56. Thrash
60. Large lake

Answers can be found on this page

on the edge

Pig facts:

■ Because baby pigs grow so quickly, a succession of 48 little pigs were used in the title role during the filming of the 1995 movie hit "Babe."

■ Pigs are exceedingly loud creatures. A University of Illinois study measured average pig squeals that ranged from 100 to 115 decibels. The supersonic Concorde jet, by comparison, was originally banned from New York when its engines exceeded 112 decibels at takeoff.

■ Scientists say that pigs, unlike all other domestic animals, arrive at solutions by thinking them through. Pigs can be - and have been - taught to accomplish almost any feat a dog can master and usually in a shorter period of time.

■ Cattle branding in the United States did not originate in the west. It began in Connecticut in the mid-19th century, when farmers were required by law to mark all their pigs.

■ During the 1900s, piggeries were developed in small- to medium-sized towns where swine were fed fresh or cooked garbage in order to cut down on waste in landfills. One environmental expert estimated that 75 pigs could consume 1 ton of refuse per day.

Source: uselesssknowledge.com

Letter to the Editor

Fan congratulates team's accomplishments

The worst part about a season-ending loss, such as the Bearcat football team experienced on Nov. 30, is that most players and coaches are probably left with the feeling that they "let their fans down." I, therefore, would like to let these players and coaches know of my gratitude for the wonderful season once again offered to us, not only due to the wins, but also to the classy playing and 100 percent effort which happens each game. Attending Bearcat football games is an event each

Saturday in the fall for my son and friends. It is that way because of all the heart put into each game by the players and coaches. For the many fans out there who are very grateful to live in this area with such high class teams, I'd just like to say there is no "let down." There is only thanks for all you have given. Please know how appreciated you are.

SANDY DAVIS
RAVENWOOD RESIDENT

Correction

■ In the Dec. 5 story "Friends, family continue healing one year after girl's death," Kyle McCoy was identified as a sophomore. He is a junior. *The Missourian* apologizes for the error.



Merry Christmas to all Students
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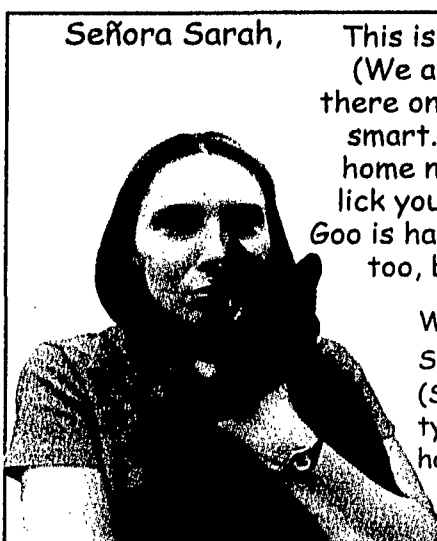
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Congratulations Graduates!
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Congratulations Nick!
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Señora Sarah, This is a picture of us together (We are cute: oui?) Way to go there on graduating, you must be smart. I'm glad you are coming home now so I can bite...I mean lick you everyday. Chee Chee Le Goo is happy you are coming home too, but she is one cold naked goose.
We all love you,
Señorita Chee Chee El Gato (Señor Miguel had to help me type this because I don't have thumbs.)
P.S. Rain Forest? That sounds wet.




Congratulations Nanny Bet!
We are so proud of you!
Love ya,
Mom & Dad



Trisha 2 or 22
We are proud of you!
Love
Mom, Traci,
Brian, Tonya,
Frank, & Lexi

Tiff,
We are more proud of you than we can say! Your persistence that drove us crazy when you were young has paid off for you! God be with you always!
Love,
Mom,Dad,Kate, and David



LOOK OUT New York! Here Comes Caroline



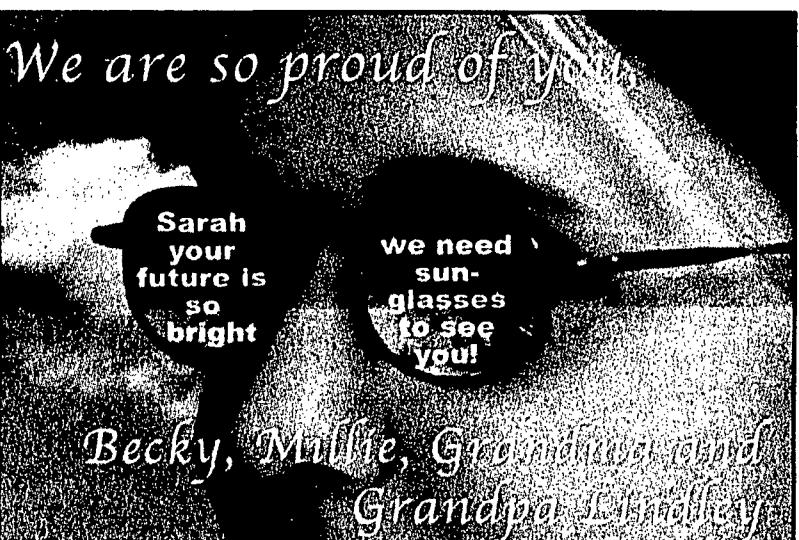
You've come a long way baby! We're very proud of you.
Love,
Mom & Matthew

Sarah, we will miss you!
Good Luck at Cerner & with Forest Park




Love you basement family

We are so proud of you!




Sarah your future is so bright
we need sunglasses to see you!
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